

# The OSCILLATOR

Volume 30 Issue 12  
December 2007

Oregon Tualatin Valley  
Amateur Radio Club

The Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club is a special service club related to ARRL: The National Association for Amateur Radio. We seek to advance the Amateur Radio Service through:

- ⇒ Education and Training of new and licensed amateurs
- ⇒ Public Service and Emergency communication
- ⇒ Hobby nets, contests and meetings
- ⇒ Social events

Membership is available to anyone. An amateur radio license is not required.



## THE BARREL

This is the time to rejoice and be thankful for the many club accomplishments this year. We have a number of new, active members who are participating in club events. I believe our club has grown considerably this last year and I'm confident we will keep growing. Today, we're 15 members stronger even with a loss of several long time members as silent keys this year.

The number of internet hits on a search for Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club grew to more than 20,000 recently. This is in direct response to the activities of our contesting group, our classes, public service and emergency commitment. W7OTV as a call sign is becoming better known. Soon we'll have more good news when participating certificates arrive.

I want to thank the OTVARC Board for their dedication to club business. I appreciate their participation and support. We are having elections this month. It is important that your voice be heard. Next year we will have new challenges and opportunities to make our club even better.

See BARREL, Page 3



As we are going to print, the efforts of ARES to meet the needs of Clatsop, Columbia, and Tillamook Counties continue. These three counties were badly affected by the twin storms of December 2007. District 1 called upon Washington, Clackamas, and Multnomah counties to fill in for the swamped ARES units in the most seriously affected counties.

This story is still being written. Once again, Amateur Radio stepped up to the need. This time recognition and appreciation came for these efforts from residents of these communities, media and Oregon State elected officials.

Do you ever wonder why you drill, attend training sessions, and visit remote communication sites? The current effort validates all the things we do to increase our operating and tactical skills.

We salute David Kidd KA7OZO, District 1 ARES Emergency Coordinator and all those who responded to this emergency. There will be more in the January issue of THE OSCILLATOR.

## CLUB MEETING

WEDNESDAY, December 12th

OTVARC is affiliated with ARRL: The National Association for Amateur Radio and is a *Special Service Club*. We meet on the second Wednesday of each month.

Our December 12th meeting will be a HOLIDAY DINNER held at **Peppermill Restaurant**, 17455 SW Farmington Rd, Beaverton beginning at 6:00 pm. Bring an "Exchange Gift" if you'd like to participate in the gift exchange. Cost is \$12 at the door. Please RSVP to [otvarc@gmail.com](mailto:otvarc@gmail.com).

## Happy December Birthday

|    |        |                  |
|----|--------|------------------|
| 2  | W7JWG  | Bert Schmidt     |
| 3  | N7LMK  | Joan Schouweiler |
| 4  | KD7ZLF | Howard Merritt   |
| 6  | K2ASP  | Phil Kane        |
| 6  | KA7UFG | Pat Griffiths    |
| 9  | K7MCK  | Roland West      |
| 13 | W7AND  | Richard Ballard  |
| 17 | N7DUC  | Peter Hardiman   |
| 17 | K7SJA  | Steven Aamodt    |
| 19 | W7NI   | Stan Griffiths   |
| 19 | WA7JBG | Pete Thunem      |
| 26 | KE7EVV | Kathleey Haupt   |
| 27 | KD7OHE | Rox Heath        |
| 27 | N7ONQ  | Floyd Ragner     |
| 28 | W7EZE  | Ken Nordling     |
| 31 | WA7DKF | Richard Bixler   |

Have we missed your birthday?  
Likely we do not have your correct date in our database.

Send updates and corrections to  
[otvarc@gmail.com](mailto:otvarc@gmail.com)



## LUNCH BUNCH

### DECEMBER LUNCH BUNCH

Saturday, December 22nd at 1:30 pm, the Lunch Bunch will gather at Yans Chinese Restaurant, 12265 SW Main, Tigard, Oregon, 503-639-3005.

For More Information  
call **KC7YTD Linda**  
503.246.8879

### 146.960 MHz Repeater By Shoutcast

The club's 146.960 MHz Repeater is heard via the Internet at [www.shoutcast.com](http://www.shoutcast.com). Search for **W7OTV**.

The stream is up 24/7 at 48 kbps with a max of 32 listeners. Listening only, no transmit capability. This is made possible by **Frank K2NCC**. We thank him for his support in this way.

A report of recent activity may be found on the club web site [www.otvarc.org](http://www.otvarc.org).

## TRAVELERS'

There is no Travelers' event scheduled for December. For general information on Travelers' events, contact **Betty N7REX** at [n7rex@teleport.com](mailto:n7rex@teleport.com) or by phone, 503.642.1284..

### OTVARC ADDRESS:

880 NE 25th Ave Ste 2-160

Your **business advertising** in *THE OSCILLATOR* is seen by members and others each month. Currently, we have more than 185 members who read each issue of *THE OSCILLATOR*.

To include your "Business Card" ad (\$48.00 annually) or "Display" - HRO size ad (\$60.00 annually), contact **Maureen O'Rourke** at 503.591.9641. There is currently limited space available.

## CHIPS FROM THE BOARD

Your Board met for its regular monthly meeting on November 28th at Tualatin Valley Fire Station 67 with six board members (two excused on medical and one working) and three club members present. **Pat N7PAT** called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm, joined by **Robert WN7O** coming from work. Minutes and Financial Reports were received.

**Wes K7WWG** reported on the repeaters. Funds were authorized for labor on the antenna replacement at Goat Mountain. These funds will come from the General Fund since the Repeater Fund was used to purchase the new antenna. Work will be completed on the 220 MHz antenna as well. In response to a question, Wes reported that the 440.350 MHz machine on the KGON tower is not club-owned but on loan to us. We pay the tower fees. The call sign could be changed to W7OTV if we desire to do so. A backup person to Wes is needed.

**Robert WN7O** reported on the planning for our HOLIDAY DINNER on December 12th. It will be a Buffet held at our regular site, \$12 per person at the door. We will be expanding into the restaurant as needed. The Gift Exchange will be included. RSVPs are important (to [otvarc.org](http://otvarc.org) or postal box).

A lengthy discussion on our meeting site was held. Wes volunteered to form a committee to propose another site to the Board. It was agreed that we need a firm decision for the sake of the club's health.

**Ron KD7VIK** reported that the next Contest for **W7OTV** will be NAQP January 19-20. **W7TVC** did run for November Sweepstakes (3 operators, 46 states and all but one of the Canadian provinces). **W7TVC** has worked 48 of 50 states at this point.

Discussions were held on possible 501©(3) application, the need for checkins on the YouthNet Sunday evenings on 146.96 MHz, and the good result from a report of possible abuse of the W7OTV call.



This product makes a useful stocking stuffer and is a local business. Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to all my amateur radio friends!

### OREGON TRAIL LIP BALM

Created by: Maureen O'Rourke KA7LAP  
[mcorourke@netzero.com](mailto:mcorourke@netzero.com)

Available at: Beaverton, Hillsboro and Central Drug (downtown Portland) pharmacies

## 6 Meter Band - 50 Mhz - The Magic Band

50.125 Mhz - SSB calling Frequency.  
 50.200 Mhz - Alternate SSB calling freq.  
 50.110 Mhz - DX calling Freq, no USA CQ's!  
 52.525 Mhz - old FM calling freq.  
 50.300 Mhz - new FM calling freq.  
 50.400 Mhz - AM calling freq.

### 50.140 Mhz - PDX 6 meter net

Monday, 8 pm - KB6TOS net control, Tualatin, OR

### 50.290 Mhz - Sunday Night Digital

7:30pm, SSB, PSK63, WSJT, SSTV and RTTY  
 WA7MLD

### 50.067 Mhz Beacon

N7DB, Boring, OR CN85

Sometimes turned off when band is open

## BARREL, from Page 1

Your representation and participation is critical and supports your elected and appointed leadership. This month's savage storm illustrates again how important it is to be prepared. The skilled and professional ham operators who have volunteered

wherever needed bring credit to our service and hobby. Many club members have spent hours throughout the affected areas where needed. After this emergency is over, and the hours have been logged and counted, we need to recognize the many members who participated in taking care of those needs.

Washington County hams carried the burden in District 1, as heard on the D1 net, and gave time and service where needed. We can all be proud of our members who volunteered.

Our holiday meeting, December 12th is scheduled at the Peppermill, starting at 6:00 PM. Bring exchange gifts and a happy spirit.

Don't forget to vote.

73

Robert WN7O

**WORLDWIDE DISTRIBUTION**



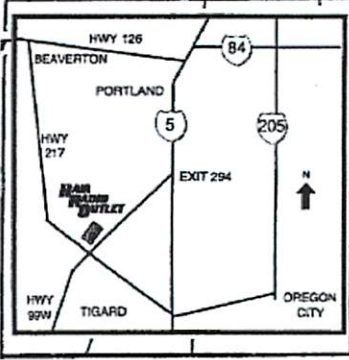
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## A RECOVERING AMERICAN SOLDIER

When you are making out your Christmas card list this year, please include the following:

A Recovering American Soldier  
 C/O Walter Reed Army Medical Center  
 6900 Georgia Avenue, NW  
 Washington, DC 20307-5001

Your demonstration of support and encouragement means a lot. If you've ever been in a situation not of your choosing, you know that every recognition and support strengthens your goals.



**J. Steven Sanders**

Certified General Appraiser  
**Sanders Appraisal, PC**

**503-320-4100**

sandersappraisal@comcast.net  
 Orenco Station, Hillsboro, OR 97124  
 Fax: 503-547-8200





**HAMFESTS & CONVENTIONS****16 February 2008****Salem Hamfair****Salem Repeater Association****Rickreall**<http://www.w7sra.com>

Talk-In: 146.86 (PL 186.2)

Don Brusch K7UN

PO Box 5130

Salem OR 97304-0130

503-371-8070

k7un@arrl.net

**8 March 2008****Electronics Fleamarket****Mike and Key ARC**

Puyallup, WA

W. Wash Fairgrounds Exhibition Hall

[www.mikeandkey.org/flea.htm](http://www.mikeandkey.org/flea.htm)

Talk-In: 146.82/22 (PL103.5)

Michael Dinkelman N7WA

22222 148th Avenue SE

Kent, WA 98042

253-631-3756

mwdink@eskimocom

**30, 31 May, 1 June 2008****SEA-PAC****Northwestern Division Convention**[www.seapac.org](http://www.seapac.org)

Talk-In: 146.660

C. Wayne Schuler, AI9Q

16414 NE 21st Avenue

Vancouver, WA 98684

Phone: 360-892-5580

Fax: 360-892-5580

Email: ai9q@arrl.net

**NOVEMBER VE SESSION**

VE sessions always confound me by refusing to conform to expectations, and this one was no exception. Usually the number of preregistered applicants is a good guide to the total size of the session. About half of the pre-reg's are no-shows, but there are usually just about that number of walk-ins. Sessions lately have been running around 8 or 10 applicants except when we have a class or something. Until about Thursday that seemed to be the case but then the phone started ringing, emails flew, and by Saturday morning I had 16 applicants pre-registered -- and every last one of them showed up! Sadly, I had to turn away several walk-ins because I only had enough materials for 19 applicants. I had not asked ARRL to expedite my most recent materials order because I was POSITIVE that 19 would be more than enough. ARRL is real nice and will send materials by priority or overnight if you ask, but I'm always trying to save them a buck.

So by the time things got settled we had just enough VEs to make up two teams and got through the session in good time. Out of our 19 applicants we now have 10 new Techs, 4 new Generals, and 4 Extras. One young gentleman gets to study more and try again. Also, one of our Generals and one of our Extras are brand new hams who started from scratch -- way to go!

Thanks to VEs Ernie K7EAJ, Rich KD7GIE, Dick KA7SPS, Claire N7CM and the other Ernie W9UOM who was sent to us unbidden by the guardian angel of Volunteer Examiners.

Next session December 1.

73, Carl WS7L

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Fax (360) 892-5580

## MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Its time to renew membership with OTVARC for 2008. Send your renewal to: OTVARC, 880 NE 25th Avenue, STE 2-160, Hillsboro OR 97124. You may give it to **Everett W6ABM**, Membership Chair, or **Alvin KD7VHI**, Treasurer, at the club meeting.

Membership dues for 2008 are \$20.00 for a regular member, \$5.00 additional for all persons living at the same address. Dues are on an annual basis and are due by January 31st. LIFE Members pay no dues but donations for club projects and needs are appreciated.

You may extend your ARRL Membership by adding \$39.00 to your check (\$36.00 if you are 65 or older). OTVARC receives a commission for your ARRL renewal. You may join the ARRL by including the \$39.00 ARRL amount on your check.

Please check the current Roster to see that your information is correct. If not, email your changes to [otvarc@gmail.com](mailto:otvarc@gmail.com) or mail to the club postal box.

<http://tinyurl.com/296rdb>

## EMERGENCY POWER

A recent discussion on the Pacific NW VHF Society email link dealt with batteries. We have been reminded in these past weeks about the importance of emergency power.

Various types of lead acid batteries and generators serve most emergency stations. Some have used solar systems to provide reliable power. We'd like to do a story in THE OSCILLATOR on what you are doing for emergency power needs.

In the NWVHFS email exchange, **Ray W7GLF** talked about the recharging protocol he follows:

This may not apply to all but I only charge my batteries once every 6 months unless I have needed to use them. SLA batteries do not normally lose charge at nearly the rate that NiCDs do. I measure my batteries and if they are below 12 volts its time to charge. At full charge they are about 12.8 volts.

- **Ray W7GLF**

Drop a note to [otvarc@gmail.com](mailto:otvarc@gmail.com) and tell us what you are doing.

## ELECTION FOR OFFICER AND TRUSTEE

The following members are standing for election to the positions indicated for your 2008 Board of Directors:

|                       |                             |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>President</b>      | <b>Robert Crocker WN7O</b>  |
| <b>Vice President</b> | <b>Pat Roberson N7PAT</b>   |
| <b>Secretary</b>      | <b>Kriston Tomson K7KWT</b> |
| <b>Treasurer</b>      | <b>Alvin Carlson KB7VHI</b> |

**Trustee Class of 2009 (Vote for 3)**

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| <b>Will Sheffield N7THL</b> |  |
| <b>Ron O'Connor KD7VIK</b>  |  |
| <b>Phil Kane K2ASP</b>      |  |
| <b>JD Fort K7JDF</b>        |  |
| <b>Al Berg W7SIC</b>        |  |

Your ballot must be received prior to 6:00 pm on December 12th to be included in the count.

**Your 2007 Club Roster is available for use at:**

<http://tinyurl.com/296rdb>

This URL takes you to a spread sheet with roster information. It will be kept current. Your role in the freshness of the information is to notify the club when something changes at ot-

## OTVARC ONLINE CALENDAR:

<http://my.calendars.net/otvarc/>

Want to keep track of events planned by various interest groups within the club? Want to check out the date for upcoming contests, projects, hamfests, etc. Here is the place to start. You find a link to this page on our web site [www.otvarc.org](http://www.otvarc.org). Have you checked out our web page lately? Is there something you'd like to see included there?